

Atlanta Ham

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

FEBRUARY 2001

"RADIO RAGE" HAZARDOUS TO HAM RADIO

Source: The ARRL Letter Jan 19, 2001

Entering his third year spearheading the FCC's Amateur Radio enforcement effort, Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth says "radio rage" could become a bigger danger to the future of Amateur Radio than rulebreaking.

"It's the infighting and arguments and juvenile spats," Hollingsworth said this week. "That's going to come back to haunt us if we don't just grow up. It will do the service in, if the ham community doesn't put a stop to it."

Hollingsworth said that he's encouraged that the FCC's enforcement program has the support of "99.9%" of the amateur community and that the vast majority of hams follow the rules. But, he said that radio rage in the form of such things as on-air squabbles or frequency fights can degrade the bands just as quickly as outright rule-breaking. "The FCC can't do anything about that," he said. "It's up to the amateur community."

Hollingsworth said that while much radio rage technically is not illegal, it reflects poorly on Amateur Radio and can balloon into an enforcement issue. More important, he said, rude or intemperate on-air behavior might provide just the sort of ammunition that an entity seeking additional spectrum will use against Amateur Radio.

Hollingsworth predicted that the departure January 19 of FCC Chairman William Kennard (see "FCC CHAIRMAN WILLIAM KENNARD RESIGNS" below) and the changing of the guard the White House the next day will not alter the course of the current amateur enforcement effort. He said he sees nothing but positive changes ahead.

"I'm willing to bet my SX-115 that we won't miss a beat," he said, referring to one of his latest acquisitions of vintage ham gear, "as long as the amateur community lets it be known it still wants enforcement."

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ATLANTA HAMFEST
JUNE 2, 2001
JIM MILLER PARK

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

#1) THE P.O. BOX HAS CHANGED!

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC
PO BOX 720398
ATLANTA, GA 30358

#2) NEWSLETTER GOES ONLINE

Also, in an attempt to conserve club resources, we are now posting the club newsletter at www.saf.com/arc. Please, if you don't require receiving a hard copy of the Atlanta Ham in your mailbox every month let us know by sending an email to atlantaham@talipsky.com. The fewer we print and send via snail mail means more money for the club to use elsewhere.

THE ATLANTA HAM

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Submit articles:

Atlanta Radio Club
Attn: HAM EDITOR
PO BOX 942150
Atlanta, Georgia 31141

Contact the editor for available formats to transfer material.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS THE 21ST OF EACH MONTH!

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THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, W4DOC

Originally known as the "Atlanta Wireless Club," the Atlanta Radio Club is one of the oldest amateur radio clubs in the United States. With nearly 200 members, the Club sponsors numerous activities and services for its membership and for the Atlanta area amateur radio community.

The Club is known for its sponsorship of the annual Atlanta HamFestival, a June event which hosts many vendors, exhibitors, and flea marketers of amateur radio equipment and other electronic equipment, including computers



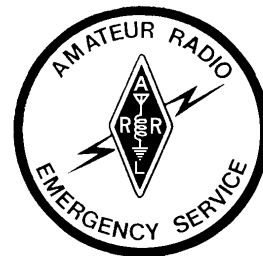
Bank of America Tower
Site of Atlanta Repeaters:
146.2(-), 224.34(-) and 444.825(+)

W4DOC REPEATERS

The Atlanta Radio Club operates five repeaters at two locations. We operate three repeaters 146.82(-), 224.34(-), and 444.825(+), at the Bank of America Tower in downtown Atlanta. This building is the tallest in Atlanta and our antennas are located than 2000' above sea level.

Our second location is the WFOX broadcast tower at Chestnut Mountain, south of Gainesville, GA. We operate two repeaters on 145.35(-) and 444.45(+). These repeaters are being renovated under the expert guidance of Tim, WK4U, and should be on the air by the summer of 2001. For pictures of that site, and for other information about our repeater systems, see <http://www.safmetal.com/arc/nbpic.htm>

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS



MEETING NOTICE

WHEN: Thursday February 1, 2001 730pm
WHERE: The Red Cross Training Rooms
Lindbergh Plaza, Sidney Marcus
& Piedmont Ave
TALK IN: 146.820
PROGRAM: Steve Diggs, W4EPI, AMSAT
Dinner at The Picadilly 6:30pm before the meeting is
located at end of building where we meet.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – PENN K4PE

There are many things at work in our club now and it's hard to pick just one to write about. We've started the new year off with several exciting happenings. Thanks to Pickett, AD4S, for a stimulating program on PSK-31 on January 4.

Our February 1st program is AMSAT and will be given by Steve, W4EPI. Steve is the former President of the Alford Club and the AMSAT coordinator for Georgia. AMSAT is particularly relevant for two reasons. First, AO-40 was launched in December and while it's fate remains uncertain, it has recovered some level of functioning. Secondly, and less well known, is that AMSAT's annual convention will be held in Decatur this fall.

We deployed the new repeater system on December 27th. The outpouring of help I received made me proud to be a member of the Atlanta Radio Club. Special thanks go to Andy, KD4ABB; Chris, KF4YDF; Bill, W4LFC; Dennis, KF4MHW; David, KF4MDV; Ronnie, K4RGJ; Chuck, W4CML; Rick, K4RAB; and Alan, NH1C. I probably missed someone there, but I would also like to thank everyone who has enthusiastically participated in the Sunday night net. On January 7 we had twenty check-ins. The gusto with which the activity has picked up on 146.82 has been astonishing and gratifying.

Besides the Hamfest, the most important upcoming business is that I plan to liquidate part of club's inventory. I will bring an up-to-date inventory to the February meeting, and I hope you will alert me if there are any sacred cows that should not be sold. At present I plan to liquidate the Rohn tower sections, the Kenwood TS-711A, TS520SE and several other items that have been gathering dust in storage. I plan to use E-bay as it seems the most active Amateur Radio marketplace today. I hope to put this money towards additional remote receive sites for 146.82 and a club HF station in the form of an HF remote base.

I would like to see an HF remote club station be the ultimate goal of any funds raised for this year's Hamfest. It is difficult to overstate the importance of the Hamfest to our club's fiscal health. It is our only fundraiser and if we are to enjoy the benefits of being a financially viable club, we should all help John, KA4VQH, with the Hamfest.

I would also like to announce a new appointment: Sam Smith, N4MAP, has agreed to serve as our ARES coordinator. Sam leads the South Fulton ARES chapter and he is a regular contributor to our email list. I hope to have an ARES program on March 1st.

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Hollingsworth said it was pressure from the ARRL and individual amateurs that prompted the resumption of amateur enforcement in 1998 during Kennard's tenure, "and it's the type of program that needs that continual pressure to keep it going," he added. Overall complaints are down, Hollingsworth said, "but no one can be complacent."

SciTrek, the Midtown science and technology museum, left in shambles financially after losing support from belly-up dot-com ventures is in danger of closing.


SciTrek comprises about a dozen hands-on exhibits on science and technology, illustrating such principles as radio waves and electricity. The museum, opened in 1988, houses a fully operating ham radio station staffed by STARS Radio Club and volunteers from all over the Atlanta area.

Attendance to the museum, mainly by metro area students has steadily been declining over the years. It is speculated that the museum has not been marketed aggressively enough and with corporate donors reducing their level of support in the wake of recent stock market duds like dot-coms funds are limited.



SciTrek has been a valuable resource to the citizens of Atlanta and the ham radio station exhibit would be sorely missed.

Museum officials are optimistic that new donors will step forward and take up the slack of lost contributions. Sweet Tomato, a pasta and salad buffet chain, has already pledged new contributions to keep the doors open and it is hoped that more contributions will flow in.


The SciTrek Amateur Radio Station is open 11am to 2pm most days. It is recommended to call the station before you visit to confirm that an operator is "on duty" before making a special trip .




LOWEST DISTRIBUTION


FT-840 100W 20-15MHz
 The FT-840 is the most advanced Yaesu portable HF transceiver. Call Now For Our Low Pricing!




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UX-1R 1W 144-148MHz
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FX-500 50W 144-148MHz
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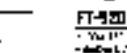
FT-847 100W 1.8-28MHz
 The FT-847 is the most advanced Yaesu portable HF transceiver. Call Now For Our Low Pricing!




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FT-100R 100W 1.8-28MHz
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FT-100R 100W 1.8-28MHz
 The FT-100R is the most advanced Yaesu portable HF transceiver. Call Now For Our Low Pricing!

(Continued from page 3)

Thanks to Chris, KF4YDF, for upgrading the ARC's email server on January 14. Chris and David, KF4MDV, are doing a fine job keeping our club communicating via email, and if you haven't already signed up for our email list, I recommend it to you at "<http://www2.raptor.nu/arc-list/>" <http://www2.raptor.nu/arc-list/>

METRO TESTING SESSIONS

Call ahead to verify session and be prepared with the appropriate forms and required papers. A small fee may be charged. Check with the VEC

First Sunday WCARS VEC
2:00 PM (Except July and September)
Johnson High School
3305 Poplar Springs Road, Gainesville
Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

Second Tuesday 7:00 PM
Walton EMC Building
3645 Lenora Church Road, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA (770)498-7759

Second Saturday CA VEC 8:30 AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain Street, Stone Mountain
Hal Martin, K14RD (770)978-9160

Third Saturday CA VEC 9:00 AM
Marietta First United Methodist Church
Room 305
56 Whitlock Avenue, Marietta
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ (770)955-3171

Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7:00 PM
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770)942-6466

Fourth Friday W5YI VEC 7:00 PM
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Road, Lilburn
Headphones provided
Howie Gould, W9HG (770)921-8362

AROUND TOWN...

1st Tuesday Kenehoochee ARC Meeting 7:30pm
First United Methodist Church Marietta

1st Tuesday Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers
6:30pm Old Hickory House . Chamble Dunwoody-I285

1st Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Meeting 7:30pm
Details Front Page...

2nd Wednesday North Fulton ARS Dinner 6:30pm

2nd Thursday Alford Memorial RC Dinner 6:00pm
Meeting 7:30pm Elks Lodge Memorial Drive

2nd Saturday (BiMonthly) planned 2/10/01 04/14/01
East Atlanta LAN . PACKET Meeting 10:00am
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church 4755 N. Ptree Rd Dunwoody

3rd Thursday Gwinnett ARS Meeting 7:30pm
Central First Baptist Church Lawrenceville

ACTIVELY SPEAKING – JOHN KA4VQH

Here is a list of upcoming activities for the month of February 2001

ARC MONTHLY MEETING: February 2, 2001

MONTHLY W4DOC BREAKFAST: None scheduled for this month...

LUNCH BUNCH: EVERY FRIDAY 11:30am
WHERE: American Pie Roswell Road Just north of I-285

SIGNMAN of Baton Rouge

ORDER
ONLINE



ORDER THE W4DOC BADGE!

The Atlanta Amateur Radio Club badge has a SILVER background with BLUE letters and the CLUB LOGO in GOLD. The distinctive Atlanta skyline; designed by Roy Epps, K4UWO; makes this name tag unique. The ARC badge is \$8.75 (includes s&h).

All badges include our special high-quality locking safety pin in the base price.

Attachment options include:

Locking safety pin - included with badge

Permanent swivel alligator clip, add \$1

Military posts - add \$1

Over-the-Pocket with a safety locking pin, add \$1.50

Removable alligator adapter (attaches to safety locking pin and can be removed as desired), add \$1.75

Extra strong "no holes" magnetic bar, add \$2

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FOR MORE INFORMATION WWW.SAF.COM/ARC

W6OBB Back On Air

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 5, 2001 - Art Bell, W6OBB, the radio personality famous for his spontaneous and compelling conversations about all things unexplained, has announced his return to radio. Bell resumes his reign as host of the most listened to live overnight radio program, Coast to Coast AM on Feb. 5 on WGST 640 AM Atlanta.

Bell states, "The negotiation was brutal and bloody! The result... fewer commercials and back to five hours."

Bell resigned last April because of family and legal issues that required his full attention. These have been resolved. His passion for radio and his audience has propelled him back with a renewed commitment to the unique show he created in 1993. Coast to Coast AM airs on more than 430 stations nationwide.

"I am ecstatic to welcome Art Bell back to his program," said Kraig T. Kitchin, president/COO of Premiere Radio Networks. "It was a bloody negotiation – pulling someone out of retirement always is. I am wildly enthusiastic to bring the news to affiliates and listeners nationwide... imagine their reaction! I also want to add my thanks to Mike Siegel."

Art bell has been a Ham Radio operator since he was a child. It's no coincidence that one of his most interesting shows contained a Ham who could talk to ghosts using his ham radio. Didn't catch the call-sign.

CLASSIFIEDS

EQUIPMENT

Life Member DON BROWN, W4MY is retiring from HAM RADIO and wishes to liquidate his station. You must visit his station to buy items. No inventory will be provided
Contact: Don 404-365-9695

Yaesu FTdx560 xcvr & manual
560w PEP / 500w CW,
80/40/20/15/10 mtrs, 6KD6 (2) finals. Purchased but never powered up or tested \$250 OBO
Pete Kwasney, W4CBV,
770-932-0078

FREE CLASSIFIED ADS!

TECH TIPS & PRODUCT REVIEW

ADI TECHNOLOGIES AR-147+



AR-147 Two Meter Mobile: Our most advanced mobile ever! The new AR-147 includes all of the features that one would expect to find on a modern amateur mobile transceiver including AM air receive direct frequency entry, lots of memory channels (81) and more. Our AR-147 is also the first amateur mobile transceivers to feature both CTCSS and Digital Coded Squelch to ensure compatibility with both the repeater systems of today and the systems of the future.

Features: Transmit Range: 144-148 MHz, Receive Range: 118-171 MHz including AM airband, MARS and CAP capable (permits are required), three power settings: 50, 10, and 5 Watts, 80 memories plus a CALL channel (all memories store any offset or tone), both CTCSS and DCS encode and decode included, Auto Repeater Offset, 9 DTMF autodialer memories PLUS a built-in redialer for autopatch use, programmable band and memory scan modes, user programmable Time Out Time, DTMF paging, dual frequency watch, direct frequency entry using multi-function DTMF microphone, PC programmable (with optional programming software), Auto Power Off, frequency or channel display modes, 4-step display dimmer, power line over/under voltage protection, easy mobile operation, Small! Size: 1.5" (H) x 5.5" (W) x 6.25" (D)

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REVIEW OR TIP?
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AR 147 + 60 WATTS \$165.00 PRICES AFTER COUPON REBATE
AVAILABLE FROM **ALABAMA RADIO** (AN ATLANTA HAMFEST SPONSOR) at www.alaradio.com

ATLANTA RADIO CLUB, INC P.O. Box 720398 Atlanta, GA 30358

New ☐ Renewal ☐ Treasurer Use: Date Paid: _____ Amount: _____ Cash ☐ or Check#
Name _____ Call _____ Class _____
Address _____ City _____ ST _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____ Birth _____
Occupation _____ Spouse's Name _____

Type of Application ☐ Voting \$22 ☐ Associate \$15 ☐ Student \$8 ☐ Family \$2(non-voting)

Are you a member of ARRL (Y/N) _____ Please include my renewal/new membership in ARRL when processing this Application! (Y/N) _____

ARRL Membership Dues are as follows: ☐ Regular ☐ Family/Blind ☐ 65 or older (Proof of age required)

☐ 1 year \$34 \$5 \$28

☐ 2 year \$65 \$10 \$53

☐ 3 year \$92 \$15 \$76

ARRL Dues include subscription to QST Magazine (Except Family/Blind memberships)

DUES PAID: ARC \$ _____ + FAMILY \$ _____ TOTAL \$ _____

ARRL \$ _____ + FAMILY \$ _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Make your check payable to Atlanta Radio Club SUMMARY \$ _____

When applying for membership you agree to abide by the by-laws governing The Atlanta Radio Club. Use of the repeaters requires that you abide by all laws and regulations governing good amateur radio practice during operation.

REMEMBER: JOIN OR RENEW YOUR ARRL DUES THROUGH THE ATLANTA RADIO CLUB. THE CLUB RECEIVES A REBATE WHEN DOING SO!

ARRL Approves Dues Increase, Alters Morse Position

Source: The ARRL Letter Jan. 19, 2001

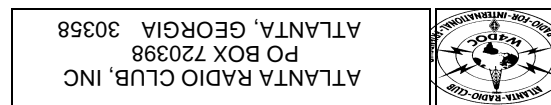
NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 22, 2001--Meeting over the weekend in Irving, Texas, the ARRL Board of Directors voted to increase membership dues from \$34 to \$39 annually for full members younger than 65, and from \$28 to \$34 for full members 65 and older. The dues hike goes into effect July 1, 2001.

The Board also revised its position on whether Morse code proficiency should continue to be an international requirement to license operation below 30 MHz. The Board approved a resolution that "recognizes and accepts" that the Morse requirement likely will be dropped from Article S25 of the international *Radio Regulations* at the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference. But while the Board acknowledged that Morse will disappear as an international requirement, it held the line on retaining a domestic Morse requirement, saying that each country should be allowed to determine for itself whether it wants to have a Morse code requirement.

Many countries, including the US, have lowered their Morse code requirements to embrace a single 5-WPM examination element.

The last ARRL dues increase was in July 1997. The increase in ARRL membership dues this time resulted from a need to fund initiatives to expand the League's advocacy activities on behalf of Amateur Radio--including the defense of amateur spectrum--and to enhance ARRL Headquarters' abilities to serve members during a period of projected deficits. The Board okayed a \$1 greater increase for seniors in an effort to narrow the dues gap as more and more ARRL members fall into the senior category.

At the same time, the Board approved the hiring of development and sales and marketing professionals on the Headquarters staff as part of an overall plan to augment revenues.



ARRL DUES INCREASE...

(Continued from page 7)

"The ARRL carries out a lot of activities that no longer can be fully funded by dues or publication sales revenues," ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, explained. While voluntary contributions towards Amateur Radio advocacy are helping greatly, "we need to professionalize these activities if we are going to sustain them," Sumner said.

Sumner pointed out that the ARRL is one of the few organizations of its size that lacks a development manager. "It's the only route to financial security for the organization--to put more emphasis on voluntary contributions," he said. "If this strategy is successful, there will be a significant source of alternative revenue available to support ARRL activities and initiatives." Among those programs is "The Big Project" educational initiative proposed last year by ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP.

The Board also agreed to adjust the management structure at ARRL Headquarters. Publications Manager and QST Editor Mark Wilson, K1RO, will serve as the ARRL's Chief Operating Officer. In that position, Wilson will oversee sales and marketing, publications, field volunteer and

membership services, the ARRL Lab, and other day-to-day Headquarters activities. In addition, the Board okayed the hiring of a publications projects manager and an ARRL Lab EMC specialist.

The Board's Morse Code resolution, which did not receive unanimous approval, declared that deletion of the Article S25 international requirement at WRC-03 "should not automatically or immediately mean a similar removal of the Morse code from Part 97 of the FCC rules." Morse code, the Board affirmed, deserves continued support as an important operating mode as well as in terms of spectrum and "should be retained as a testing element in the US." The resolution also called on ARRL Headquarters staff to "develop a program designed to promote the use of Morse."

The resolution supersedes all previous Board policy statements regarding Morse code and Article S25. It means the ARRL will not vote against proposals at the IARU Region 2 Conference next October or at WRC-03 that might call for elimination of the Morse requirement from the international *Radio Regulations*.

When the ARRL membership was last surveyed on its opinions about Morse some four years ago, a majority of League members supported retention of the international requirement. But the same survey results acknowledged